

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BOGOTA 03278 121408Z
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-13 JUSE-00
NSAE-00 SNM-02 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05 OES-06
OMB-01 SS-15 AID-05 PA-01 PRS-01 /073 W
-----121446Z 036860 /40

R 121332Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 922
INFO DEA HQS WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L BOGOTA 3278

STATE FOR SNM AND ARA

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SNAR , CO
SUBJECT: PRESIDENT LOPEZ SPEAKS OUT ON DRUG TRAFFICKING

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. IN AN INTERVIEW APPEARING IN EL TIEMPO APRIL 10, PRESIDENT LOPEZ IN UNUSUALLY STRONG TERMS WARNED OF IMPLICATIONS FOR COLOMBIA OF DRUG TRAFFICKING.

2. FOLLOWING IS EMBASSY TRANSLATION OF PERTINENT PORTION OF INTERVIEW: QUOTE WHAT KIND OF COLOMBIA WOULD YOU LIKE TO GOVERN? LOPEZ MICHELSEN ANSWERS. WELL, THE ONE WHICH I THOUGHT I WAS GETTING. THE THING IS THAT EVERYTHING HAS CHANGED. NO ONE EXPERIENCED WHAT I AM EXPERIENCING. DID YOU HEAR ANY CANDIDATE MENTION DURING THE PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN THE DRUG PROBLEM? THIS PROBLEM HAS INEXPRESSIBLE IMPLICATIONS. IT PRODUCES MONETARY EFFECTS WHICH CONTRIBUTE TO INFLATION; DRUG TRAFFICKING IS THREATENING THE FISHING INDUSTRY; IT PLACES COLOMBIA IN A DIFFERENT RELATIONSHIP WITH THE US; IN SOME AREAS, IT DETERMINES COLOMBIAN POLITICS. IF NOTHING IS DONE TO REMEDY THE BRIBERY, DRUG INTERESTS WILL HAVE THEIR OWN SENATORS AND REPRESENTATIVES. THIS WAS HOW A SENATOR RAISED IT WITH ME YESTERDAY. AND NOT ONLY DO I SAY THIS; IT IS PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE. DRUGS WILL BE DETERMINING EVENTS FROM NOW TO THE
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YEAR 2000, AS IT OCCURED IN CHINA, BEFORE MAO: EITHER WE EXTERMINATE THEM OR THEY WILL EXTERMINATE US. END QUOTE.
END UNCLASSIFIED.

3. COMMENT: BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL. THIS IS ONE OF THE GRIMMEST, AND ONE OF THE MOST REALISTIC, STATEMENTS THAT LOPEZ IS KNOWN TO HAVE MADE ON THE NARCOTICS PROBLEM. MOREOVER, HE

RESISTED HIS USUAL INCLINATION TO PUT MAJOR BLAME FOR THE PROBLEM
ON THE US. UNFORTUNATELY, HE FAILED TO GO ON TO INDICATE IN THE
INTERVIEW ANY NEW MEASURES OR DETERMINATION TO COMBAT THE
TRAFFICKING MORE EFFECTIVELY.
DREXLER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DRUG TRAFFIC, PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 12-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BOGOTA03278
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770126-0809
Format: TEL
From: BOGOTA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770468/aaaacgis.tel
Line Count: 67
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 6c52bda6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Page Count: 2
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Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Retention: 0
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Review Date: 11-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2836877
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENT LOPEZ SPEAKS OUT ON DRUG TRAFFICKING
TAGS: SNAR, SOPN, PGOV, CO, (LOPEZ MICHELSEN, ALFONSO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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Review Markings:
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